

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending. Claims 1-26 were rejected. Independent claims 1, 15, 19, and were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art in view of Erimli (US 6,745,246).

The Examiner argues that the admitted prior art discloses "specifying one more quality of service parameters for the virtual cable modem, thereby controlling the multicast transmission quality of service on the cable network." The Examiner cites (page 1, lines 14-26; page 2, lines 6-14) and Fig. 1 per cable modem classifier list 111. However, the admitted prior art applies only to unicast transmissions, not multicast transmissions. For example, "since DOCSIS only provides quality of service parameters on a per cable modem basis however, these parameters are only available for unicast or point-to-point routing. For example, where one client on an external network sends a data file to a client within a cable network, DOCSIS allows the CMTS to determine what quality of service parameters should be associated with the data file packets being transmitted to the cable modem within the cable network" (page 2, lines 9-14). "While DOCSIS provides extensive functionality for specifying quality of service provisions for unicast or point-to-point transmissions, DOCSIS provides little or no functionality for specifying quality of service parameters for a multicast stream intended to be received by a number of clients. This shortcoming is particularly serious because both multicasting and cable are technologies that are capable of bringing true streaming video content to the end user" (page 4, lines 4-9).

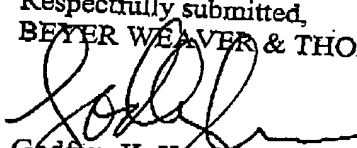
The admitted prior art furthermore does not teach or suggest any "virtual cable modem." The Examiner argues that the modem classifier list 111 in Figure 1 is a virtual cable modem. The Applicants respectfully disagree. As noted in the specification, the classifier list 111 is used to "categorize the packet based on criteria such as IP address, protocol type, or port number" (page 2, lines 22-23). Packets may be classified based on different criteria using the classifier list. However, the classifier list is not a virtual cable modem. Erimli similarly does not teach or suggest any virtual cable modem.

Neither the admitted prior art nor Erimli teach or suggest a "virtual cable modem" or "specifying one more quality of service parameters for the virtual cable modem, thereby controlling the multicast transmission quality of service on the cable network."

In light of the above remarks relating to independent claims, the remaining dependent claims are believed allowable for at least the reasons noted above.

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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